

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 03/03973

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H02P7/05 H02P6/18 H02P1/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H02P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6 140 729 A (BARNES MIKE ET AL) 31 October 2000 (2000-10-31) cited in the application abstract figures 1,3,4,10 column 2, line 42 -column 3, line 11	1-4, 15, 16, 22, 23, 33, 34
Y	US 5 448 149 A (EHSANI MEHRDAD ET AL) 5 September 1995 (1995-09-05) abstract figures 1,2,2A column 2, line 20 -column 3, line 14 column 4, line 53 -column 5, line 41 column 8, line 10 - line 68 claims 1,2	1-4, 15, 16, 22, 23, 33, 34

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

30/01/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Vanata, D

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 03/03973

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 350 984 A (CAROBOLANTE FRANCESCO ET AL) 27 September 1994 (1994-09-27) abstract figures 1,3 column 2, line 59 -column 3, line 2 -----	40
Y	US 5 982 133 A (HONDA YUKIO ET AL) 9 November 1999 (1999-11-09) abstract figure 2 column 9, line 12 - line 32 -----	40
A	EP 0 470 685 A (SYNEKTRON CORP) 12 February 1992 (1992-02-12) abstract claims 1,4 -----	13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/03973

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6140729	A	31-10-2000	CN 1227010 A 25-08-1999
			DE 69716086 D1 07-11-2002
			DE 69716086 T2 18-06-2003
			EP 0916178 A1 19-05-1999
			WO 9805112 A1 05-02-1998
			JP 2000516080 T 28-11-2000
US 5448149	A	05-09-1995	NONE
US 5350984	A	27-09-1994	JP 7327391 A 12-12-1995
US 5982133	A	09-11-1999	JP 9047075 A 14-02-1997
			CN 1146097 A ,B 26-03-1997
EP 0470685	A	12-02-1992	US 5015939 A 14-05-1991
			EP 0470685 A1 12-02-1992
			JP 4229093 A 18-08-1992